

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

John King Frederick TAIT

US Serial No.: To be assigned

International Priority Date: March 16, 2001

**Title: A METHOD AND SYSTEM TO PROVIDE AND MANAGE SECURE
ACCESS TO INTERNAL COMPUTER SYSTEMS FROM AN EXTERNAL
CLIENT**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT & CLAIM OF PRIORITY

Director of the US Patent & Trademark Office
Washington, DC 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to action in, and calculation of fees for, the above-captioned application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 7, line 1, delete "5 or 6".

Claim of Priority

The Applicant hereby claims foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code 119, of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

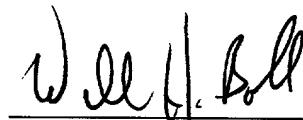
**Great Britain Application No. 0106477.3, entitled
"A Method and System to Provide and Manage Secure Access to Internal
Computer Systems From an External Client," filed on March 16, 2001**

REMARKS

By the amendment, the multiple dependencies have been removes from dependent claim 7 so that each claim depends from a single claim and to avoid the fee charged for such claims as originally presented.

Dated: April 6, 2001

Respectfully submitted,



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